

Associate Hospital Managers Reviews

Who are the
Associate Hospital
Managers and what
do they do?



What is an Associate Hospital Managers review?

This type of review is a meeting held with an independent panel of people, the professionals involved in your care and you, to discuss whether you should continue to be detained under the Mental Health Act or not.

We hope this leaflet will help to explain what will happen at the hearing and help to make sure you get the type of hearing you want.

Who are the Associate Hospital Managers?

The name "hospital managers" can be confusing. In this case, it does not mean the people who run the hospital or the Trust.

- Associate Hospital Managers (AHM) are independent people appointed by the Trust
- They cannot be employees of the Trust.
- They review patients' detention under the Mental Health Act.
- A panel of three Associate Hospital Managers will be present at a review hearing.
- They can decide whether to discharge a section or Community Treatment Order.

What's the difference between an AHM review and a Tribunal?

Both the Tribunal and AHMs have the power to discharge a Section, but the two types of hearing are different:

- You can only apply for a Tribunal once during each period of detention, but you can apply to the hospital managers more frequently.
- A Tribunal is an independent court of law, and the panel consist of a Judge, a Tribunal Doctor and a Tribunal layman. The AHMs are independent people appointed by the Trust.
- The AHMs' reviews are less formal than a Tribunal.
- An AHM review is arranged quickly by the legislation team within the Humber trust.



How do I apply for an AHM Review?

An AHM review will automatically be arranged for you when your section is due to be renewed or extended. This is to make sure that you are not kept on a section for longer than you need to be. You can ask a member of staff to tell you when your detention will expire.

You can apply for a review at any other time if you are subject to a:

- section 2
- section 3
- section 37
- Community Treatment Order

You can ask a member of staff for an application form, and you can:

- Fill this in by yourself
- Ask a member of staff to assist you
- Ask a member of staff to do this for you

You can ask for a review as many times as you like, although it may not be granted if:

- You have recently had one
- There have been no changes since your last review
- You have a Tribunal coming up.

The AHMs can also review a request for discharge from your Nearest Relative if that request is challenged by the Responsible Clinician.

What happens before an Associate Hospital Managers' review?

- Before the review, your Responsible Clinician (Doctor), Named Nurse (if inpatient), and Social Worker (or other healthcare professional involved in your care) will be asked to write reports.
- These reports will be sent to the panel to read. A copy of these reports can be made available to you unless there is a valid reason not to do so.
- If you have a solicitor, they should read through the reports with you to ensure you understand them.
- You should be provided with this information in good time before the review meeting so that you, and your legal representative (if you have one) can consider their contents and prepare for the review meeting.

What happens at the review?

What happens during an Associate Hospital Managers' review?

The attendees usually consist of:

- You
- 3 x Associate Hospital Managers
- Your Responsible Clinician
- Your Named Nurse /Community Nurse
- Your Social Worker / Care Coordinator
- Your legal representative / IMHA
- Your nearest relative (if you permit them to attend).

Your opportunity to speak to the AHMs

Unless there is an issue of safety, you should always be given the opportunity to speak to the panel alone before the review commences. You don't have to do this, but if you choose to, you can do this alone or with your legal representative or IMHA accompanying you.

During the review your responsible clinician and other professionals will be asked to give their views on whether they believe you should remain on the section or a Community Treatment and justify why they believe this. You and your legal representative will have the opportunity to speak and ask questions if you have any.

What will the panel consider?

- If you still have a mental health problem and if so, how serious it is
- If you still need assessment and treatment (or treatment) in hospital
- Your health would be at risk, or your safety or someone else's safety, would be at risk if you were

discharged from the section and/or left hospital

- If there are other less restrictive options, such as whether you can be treated for your mental health problem in the community, and appropriate treatment will still be available to you.
- If you are on a CTO they will look at whether your doctor still needs the power to recall you to hospital.

At the end of the review

At the end of the review the Associate Hospital Managers will decide if you should stay on your section or be discharged.

- All three panel members must agree for you to be discharged.
- Usually, they will tell you what the decision is at the end of the review.
- They may occasionally need to consider adjourning the review so that they can ask for more medical or other professional advice.
- If they decide not to discharge you, they will give their reasons to you both verbally and in writing.

What if the Associate Hospital Managers discharge me from my section?

If they discharge you from the section, you will no longer be subject to the provisions of the mental health Act.

You can either leave the hospital or choose to stay in the hospital as a voluntary patient, if the medical team agree to this.